

CE E-LETTER
L.O.F.T.
Living Our Faith Together
presents
"New Beginnings"
September 2011 - August 2012

December 5, 2011

Dear Parents and Families;



Shepherds, Villagers, Magi, and the Holy Family have gathered to sing, dance, and prepare for the annual Christmas Pageant! Only two more weeks of rehearsals left.

Help your child with their singing and speaking part at home. Preparation will bring them confidence and joy when they appear in worship on **Dec. 18th**. I wonder if that is not God's plan for all of us? We will experience Confidence and Joy, if we too intentionally prepare for the coming of the Christ Child.

The Advent-ure Workshops

Adults and children stopped by the Advent-ure tables to contemplate the art work of Brugel and to create people for our own creche scene which will be a mural for worship on Dec. 18th. Plan to participate next week for our last Advent-ure Workshop.

Shaw Ministries. Please bring your gift, wrapped and labeled, to the Narthex of Trinity **next Sunday**. The gifts will be collected and transported by "Elf Joe," that reliable and humble man who represents First Congregational on the board of Shaw.

The Video Youth Project

Under the direction of Randy Herrick-Stare, youth began filming and taking photos of our community of faith this past Sunday. As our young people look through the camera lens, they practice the presence of God by seeing God's creation in the emotions, expressions, and reactions of God's people.

Youth are grabbing their calendars to find a good date for **"Movie Night in the City."** Nancy Withbroe will be contacting you about this important gathering for our young people.

SAFE CHURCH TIP of the WEEK

Keeping our children safe requires vigilant observation and supervision of the entire church family. To support this on-going practice, the CE Commission will offer a tip every week as a reminder of our responsibility to be "stewards of sanctuary," for all of our church families and for all visitors. Stay tuned to this reminder beginning next Monday!



L.O.F.T.

Calendar of Upcoming Events.

INTERGENERATIONAL

Dec. 11 Advent-ure Craft Workshops (after coffee hour) for all ages.

Dec. 11 Deadline for Shaw Ministry Secret Santa gifts

Dec. 24 @ 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship at 10th and G (child care available)

Dec. 25th @ 1:00 p.m. Christmas Day Worship at Trinity

Talent Show - Date TBA

ADULT

Sundays, 12:00-12:55 Bible Workbench follows the lectionary and meets in the downstairs fellowship hall unless otherwise posted. No advanced study required. Each

participant has the opportunity to lead Bible Workbench.
Materials for study are provided each month by e-mail.

Dec. 11 Adult Advent Nurtures hosted by the Worship Commission
and Rev. Sid Fowler

WEE EXPLORE and EXPLORING OUR FAITH (Ages 4-10)

Sundays Each Sunday Wee Explore and Exploring Our Faith gather in worship and after "Sharing Our Faith" continue downstairs with adult leadership.

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH (11+)

Sundays Each Sunday Youth aged 11+ meet with Adult Leaders to explore and discuss spiritual topics in relation to the bible and God's work in the the world. Outreach events are planned quarterly.

Back to 10th and G Video Project - Youth are asked to video on Dec. 18 in worship as a practice for the moving into the new building. See Bonnie for details.

Feb. 26 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Potomac Youth Event at Westmoreland Congregational Church. A "night of service, faith, and fun". See Bonnie for details.

Winter Movie Night in the City - Dec. 8th. See Nancy Withbroe for details.

L'Arche Outreach - Saturday Date and Time TBA

July 1-7th, 2012 - Potomac Youth (those who have graduated from 8th grade and older) Service Week in Franklyn, West Virginia in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity and the Potomac Association of the UCC

CHILDCARE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children from birth to age 3 are welcomed to the nursery under the supervision of David and Edgar our child care providers. Parents are asked to pick their young ones up after worship.

TEACHERS FOR NEXT WEEK

Wee Explore - Julie Brylawski and Priscilla Waters

Exploring Our Faith - Julie Brylawski and Priscilla Waters

Affirming Our Faith - Bonnie Hardy and Bill Middleton

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMISSION MEETING

January, 2012 - TBA

Any questions or suggestions please contact your CE Commission.

Grace and Peace,

Bonnie